

English A Reading Instruction

Learning New Vocabulary: Derivatives

Learning new words is very important to improving your reading skills. One of the most important Reading Strategies that you can develop is the way to learn AND remember new words and phrases. One of the easiest ways to increase the number of words you know is to learn all the “**derivatives**” (派生語) of the new words you encounter in your reading. Derivatives are the different forms of English words. Almost all English words have several forms of the same word depending on how the word is *used* in a sentence. For example, look at the word **TEACH**. From this one “base” word we can build several different words that have similar meanings but which have different uses.

Base Word: TEACH	<u>Word Form</u>	<u>Derivatives</u>
	verb: infinitive	to teach (I like <i>to teach</i> English.)
	verb: present tense singular	teaches (She <i>teaches</i> English.)
	verb: present tense plural	teach (They <i>teach</i> English.)
	verb: -ing form	teaching (He is <i>teaching</i> English today.)
	verb: past tense	taught (I <i>taught</i> English last year)
	verb: past participle	taught (I have <i>taught</i> English before)
	adjective	teachable (He is a very <i>teachable</i> boy.)
	noun 1	teacher (My brother is a <i>teacher</i>)
	noun 2	teaching (The <i>teachings</i> of Jesus Christ are very beautiful)

When building new words from the base word, we often use **prefixes** (接頭辞) and **suffixes** (接尾辞). A prefix is something added to the beginning of the base word. Suffixes are added to the end of the word. For example, in the word **unteachable**, we have the base word “**teach**”, a prefix “**un-**” (which means “not”) and a suffix “**-able**” (which means “to be able to do something”). By adding this prefix and suffix, we create a new word from the base word. This new word is an adjective that means: not able to teach. When you are looking for derivatives, try also to memorize the meanings of the most common prefixes and suffixes you encounter.

Not all English words have derivatives, but most have several. For your Reading Journal, you will be expected to find 3 related words for every new word on your list. Finding the derivative of the new words is an easy way to find these related words. By doing this, you can also increase your vocabulary and get a better feel for how English words can be used in a sentence. The following is a list of the different forms an English word MIGHT take.

noun: 名詞

adjective: 形容詞

adverb: 副詞

verb: infinitive 不定詞

verb: present tense singular 単数現在形動詞

verb: present tense plural 現在複数形動詞

verb: past tense 過去形動詞

-ing form (present participle) 現在分詞

past participle 過去分詞

Here are some additional grammatical terms that might help you in doing your Reading Journal.

abbreviation 省略語

auxiliary verb 助動詞

colloquial 口語の、日常会話の

idiom 慣用語句

preposition 前置詞

pronoun 代名詞

conjunction 接続詞

antonym 反対語

synonym 類義語

Practice Activities: New Pet Craze

Depressed by rising unemployment and an uncertain future, more and more Japanese are turning to an unlikely source of solace - **miniature** pigs.

The latest boom in the Japanese pet world, the tiny pigs are **adored** for their sweet nature and portly shapes.

"They are nice and fat, but also very lovable," said Emi Ito, who works at Saiboku Livestock Farm Corp in Saitama, Japan. Ito has been a mini-pig fan for seven years.

"They're really comforting and round - and anything that **comforts** people is very popular in Japan right now."

The pigs were **originally** bred for use as laboratory animals and are about one tenth to one fifth the size of the normal livestock variety.



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Activity 1 Finding Derivatives With your group, find these words in the passage. Then, write their derivatives. You may use a dictionary, but try to do without a dictionary first.

Example: **depressed** (word form in story) adjective
(noun) depression (verb) to depress (synonym) miserable (antonym) happy

(1 point each) Score ____/20

1. **unemployment** a. (word form in article) _____
b. (adjective) _____ c. (noun) _____ d. (antonym) _____
2. **miniature** a. (word form in story) _____
b. (verb) _____ c. (synonym) _____ d. (antonym) _____
3. **adored** a. (word form in story) _____
b. (adjective 2) _____ c. (adverb) _____ d. (synonym) _____
4. **comforts** a. (word form in story) _____
b. (noun) _____ c. (adjective) _____ d. (adverb) _____
5. **originally** a. word form in story _____
b. (adjective) _____ c. (noun) _____ d. (verb) _____

Activity 1:

1. a. noun b. unemployable, employable, unemployed, employed c. the unemployed, the employed, employer, employee d. employment, work
2. a. adjective b. to miniaturize c. small, tiny, baby-sized, miniscule d. large, huge, giant, humongous
3. a. adjective b. adorable c. adorably d. loved, cherished, appreciated
4. a. present tense singular verb b. comfort c. comforting, comforted, comfortable d. comfortingly, comfortably
5. a. adverb b. original c. origin d. to originate